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BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st 1948.

Medical Officer of Health:-

DR. A. BARLOW, M.B., Ch.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

BRIERFIELD.

September, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members,
BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 3/49, an Interim Report only, on the lines of the 1947 report, is presented for the year 1948. It includes only essential or urgent matters, which have effected public health during the year. All records and statistics are being preserved so that the annual records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

I have pleasure, therefore, in submitting for your consideration the following interim report on the Health, Sanitary conditions and Public Health administration in the Urban District of Brierfield for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1948, according to the Rate Book was 2,476, the Rateable Value being £42,775 and the sum represented by a penny rate - £178.

The social conditions were good; the chief industry is Cotton Weaving.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION The population, as estimated by the Registrar General for Mid-1948 is 6,900.

BIRTHS 107 live births belonging to the District occurred during 1948, as follows:-

		Male	Female	Total
Live Birth	(Legitimate	57	47	104
	(Illegitimate	-	3	3
				107
Stillbirths		-	2	2

Comparative particulars with regard to Live Births over the last five years, are given in the following table:-

	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
Total Live Births	107	132	117	118	98.
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	15.5	19.6	17.6	18.6	15.5

INFANTILE MORTALITY 3 children under 1 year of age died during the year, as follows:-

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Age
Subarachnoid Haemorrhage	-	1	4 mths.
Prematurity	1	-	5 days
Prematurity	1	-	2 days.

Comparative particulars with regard to Infantile Mortality, over the last five years, are given in the following table:-

	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
Total Deaths under 1 year	3	6	3	3	5
Inf.Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	28.0	45.4	25.6	25.4	51.0

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DEATHS: 89 Deaths, belonging to the District, occurred during 1948, as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths within the Urban District	34	31	65.
Deaths outside District (in hospitals, Institutions etc.)	12	12	24.
			89

Comparative particulars with regard to Deaths over the last five years are given in the following tables:-

	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944.
Total Deaths	89	100	113	92	99.
Death Rate per 1000 estimated population	12.8	14.9	17.0	14.5	15.7

The following tables gives the ages at which death occurred also the causes of all deaths belonging to Brierfield during the year 1948:-

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

Causes of Death	Under 1 yr.	1- 5.	5- 15	15- 25.	25- 65.	65 and over	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					4.	1	5
Non-Pul. Tuberculosis					1.		1
Influenza					1.		1
Cancer					7.	7.	14
Diabetes					1.		1
Intra cranial vascl. lesions.	1				6.	6.	13
Heart Disease					8.	10.	18
Bronchitis					4.	4.	8
Pneumonia						2.	2
Ulcer of Duodenum					1.		1
Appendicitis					1.		1
Nephritis						2.	2
Premature Birth	2						2
Conjenital Malformation		1					1
Suicide					1.	1.	2
Accident						1.	1
Arterio sclerosis						5.	5
Pernicious Anaemia					1.		1
Hemiplegia						1.	1
Chronic Cystitis					1.		1
Senility						4.	4
Uraemia						1.	1
Disseminated Sclerosis					1.		1
Hyperpiesis						1.	1
Exposure						1.	1
	3	1	-	-	38.	47.	89.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This service was under the direction and control of the District Council until 4th July, 1948.

The Centre was open at the following times:-

Day	Clinic	Time Open
Monday	Sunlight	from 2.0 p.m.
	Sale of Food	2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.
Tuesday	Immunisation	From 3.0 p.m.
	Antenatal (abnormal cases)	After Immunisation clinic.
Wednesday	Antenatal	From 2.30 p.m.
Thursday	Infant Welfare (consultation, treatment)	2.30 pm. to 5.0 p.m.
Friday	Sale of Food, General enquiries and arrangements for consultation	2.0 p.m. to 6.0 p.m.
	for mothers	2.0 p.m. to 6.0 p.m.

Attendances at Clinics were as follows:-

Infant Welfare Clinic

No. of times opened..... 26
No. of attendances.....1647

Analysis of Attendances:-

New Infants.....	58
Sub. " 1079	
New over 1 yr.....	2
Sub. " "(1-2).....	410
(2-5).....	98
	1647

Consultations

No. of children seen by doctor 270

Analysis:-

New Infants.....	34
Subsequent Infants....	165
Overage (1 - 2).....	20
(2 - 5).....	15
	504

Antenatal Clinic

No. of times opened..... 26
No. of attendances..... 312

Sunlight Clinic

No. of times opened..... 24
No. of attendances..... 67

Sale of Food

No. of times opened..... 48

Quantity of Food Supplied:-

Dried Milk.....	1,664	lbs.
Virol.....	385	"
Virolax.....	48	"
Lactogal.....	3	"
Groats.....	17	"
Glucose.....	169	"
Barley.....	8	"
Emulsion.....	42	bottles.

VENERAL DISEASE — The nearest clinic is at Burnley, Any cases discovered are advised to attend the Burnley Clinic.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

WATER — Brierfield is supplied with a constant supply of water from the mains of Nelson Corporation, and there were no new sources of supply during the year. The water is of good quality and in good supply, apart from a few houses in Marsden Heights area where the supply is intermittent, and a few houses in various streets where, probably, the joint service pipes are too small. All houses in the District are supplied direct from public mains and there has been no evidence of any form of contamination. No examinations are made by us, as routine examinations are made by Nelson Corporation, Water Department.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL — No extensions to sewers or sewage works were made during the year, and the existing services and arrangements have been efficiently maintained.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION — There are approximately 9 pail closets in the District at isolated cottages in Marsden Heights.

SCAVENGING — This was carried out by the Council's own workmen, with a two-ton "Bedford" tipping wagon. Domestic refuse is collected weekly free of charge from private houses, shops and mills, and disposed of at the Council's Destructor works.

SALVAGE Salvage Work has been efficiently maintained, and the following amounts of materials were salvaged during the year:-

Weights T.	C.	Q.	Material	Amount Realized £.	s.	d.
92.	2.	1.	Paper	636.	0.	0.
12.	8.	1.	Blackscrap	15.	10.	3.
50.	4.	0.	Baled Tins	65.	5.	3.
1.	10.	1.	Bones	8.	12.	5.
122.	7.	1.	Kitchen Waste	351.	16.	6.
1.	13.	2.	Rags & Alum.	32.	19.	1.
4.	4.	1.	Jars etc.	40.	16.	11.
			Bonus	19.	17.	0.
284.	9.	3.		£ 1170.	17.	5.

Comparative figures regarding salvage over the last three years are shown in the following tables

	1948 Weight T.C.Q.	1948 Value £.	1947 Weight T. C.Q.	1947 Value £	1946 Weight T. C.Q.	1946 Value £
Total Salvage	284.9.3.	1171	181 15 0	808	159 1 1	655

SANITARY INSPECTION

	No. of Premises Visited	Nuisance Discovered	Notices Prelim.	Notices Stat.	Remedied
Sanitary Inspections during 1948 (including housing)	234	48	48	12	39

DISINFESTATION

Houses found to be infested.....Nil
Houses disinfested.....Nil

When required disinfestation is by means of "Vermicine" and "Cescones" poison gas, carried out by the Local Authority, at the expense of the owner or occupier.

HOUSING

CONDITIONS The majority of the houses are in rows, stone-built, about 50 years old. Later types are brick-built semis mainly, many of the houses being owner-occupied and well maintained.

STATISTICS 24 Traditional permanent houses were erected during the year and 4 permanent houses were in hand at 31st December, 1948.

OVERCROWDING

24 new cases of overcrowding occurred during the year, and 35 dwellings were known to be overcrowded at the end of the year.

HOUSES REQUIRED TO ALLEVIATE OVERCROWDING

There is a definite shortage of 3 bedroom type houses. To meet overcrowding 30 three bedroom and 6 four bedroom type houses are required. Houses are also required for newly married couples and bungalows for old people living with their children.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

DAIRIES COWSHEDS & MILKSHOPS

The milk supply is plentiful and its quality wholesome and it is distributed throughout the District directly chiefly by farmers in the vicinity. Retail milk purveyors registered with the Council.....45
Producers of milk registered with the Council..... 6
Periodical inspections of places where food is prepared have been made, and the premises generally have been found in good order. Periodically, bacteriological examinations of samples of milk are made by the County Council.

MEAT

All slaughtering has been transferred to Abbattoirs outside the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

All cases of Infectious Diseases were visited upon notification, and where patients are not transferred to isolation hospital, they are isolated in one room of the house. Disinfectants are kept at the Town Hall and supplies are given to necessitous cases.

Diphtheria Antitoxin and Tetanus Antitoxin were issued free to Medical Practitioners on application.

MEASLES

102 cases of Measles were notified during the year. They were mostly of a milk type, with no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH

39 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year, and there were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA

One case of Diphtheria was notified during the year. This case was immunised in 1945.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The scheme for the immunisation of children against diphtheria has again met with a good response during the half-year.

The number of injections is summarised as follows:-

Children Resident in Brierfield

No. completed full course	No. given one reinforcing injection.	Total injections.
46	16	62

Children Resident Outside Area

No. completed full course	No. given one reinforcing injection	Total injections.
2	0	2

Immunisation State of Child population as at 31st December, 1948:-

	Under 5 yr of age	Over 5 & under 15	Total under 15 yrs of age.
Estimated mid-year population 1948:-	536	778	1314
No.of children imm.up to 4th July, 1948	296	565	861.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
45 - 55	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	- 4		1 -		2 3		- 1	
	4		1		5		1	

CASES ON REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER, 1948

On the register at the end of December 1948 there were 33 cases of Tuberculosis, 17 Pulmonary and 16 Non-Pulmonary.

	Under 1 yr.	1-5.	5-15	15-25	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	Over 65	Total
Pulmonary										
Tuberculosis				2	5	4	5	1		17
Non-Pulmonary										
Tuberculosis										
Spine				1	2					3
Cervical glands			2	3	1	1				7
Testis							1			1
Bladder & Kidney							1			1
Left Hand									1	1
Abdomen			1							1
Rt.Knee Joint			1							1
Both Legs							1			1
	-	-	4	6	8	5	8	1	1	33

As these cases are dealt with by the County Tuberculosis Officer we have no direct information about the number of cases receiving allowances.

The following table gives the total number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified and the ages during 1948;-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1948

	Total cases at all ages	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Total Deaths	Total cases removed to Hospital from the District	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District.
Measles	102	3	9	17	21	19	32					1				
Whooping Cough	39	2	5	8	8	6	10									
Scarlet Fever	6				1	1	2	1	1						4	
Erysipelas	6										3	3			2	
Pneumonia	10	1			1		2	1		1	2	1	1	2		
Diphtheria	1				1										1	
Dysentery	1									1						
	165	6	14	25	32	26	46	2	1	2	5	5	1	2	7	NIL

LABORATORY WORK

SPECIMENS EXAMINED, DURING YEAR 1948

Swabs for Diphtheria.....	Positive	0.	Negative	3.
Faeces: Pathogenic organisms	"	0.	"	5.
Sputum for Tuberculosis.....	"	1.	"	0.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Arrangements for Home Helps were made in 5 cases; Grants in aid of Hospital accommodation in 5 cases. Maternity outfits are now supplied by the County Midwife.

BIRTHS Number of births notified during the half year under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 as adjusted by any transfer Notifications:-

(a) Live Births.....58
(b) Still Births..... -
(c) Total Births.....58
(d) By Midwives.....47
(e) By Doctors & Parents....11

HEALTH VISITING The number of visits made by the Health Visitor during the half year are as follows:-

VISITS

Total number of houses visited.....351
Total number of visits.....621

ANALYSIS

Birth Visits.....	52
0 - 1 "	202
1 - 2 "	127
2 - 5 "	127
Ante Natal Visits.....	38
Post Natal "	54
Infectious Diseases Visits.....	20
Child Life Protection "	1
	621

MATERNAL DEATHS There were no maternal deaths during the year.

PREMATURE BIRTHS "Flying Squad" for emergency cases is stationed at Municipal Hospital, Burnley. Arrangements made with the Bank Hall Maternity Hospital, Burnley to admit permature infants, born at home, as circumstances require.

ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN No social workers in this area. Burnley and District House of Help and local clergy supervise generally.

LABORATORY WORK

SPECIMENS - EXAMINED, DURING YEAR 1943

Swabs for diphtheria..... Positive 0. Negative 3.
Faecent Pathogenic organisms " 0. " 5.
Sputum for Tuberculosis..... " 1. " 6

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Attendances for home helps were made in 5 cases; Gratis in aid of Hospital accommodation in 5 cases. Maternity outfits are now supplied by the County Midwife.

BIRTHS Number of births notified during the half year under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 as adjusted by any Superior Registrations:-

(a) Live Births..... 58
(b) Still Births..... -
(c) Total Births..... 58
(d) By Midwives..... 57
(e) By Doctors & Parents..... 1

HEALTH VISITING The number of visits made by the Health Visitor during the half year are as follows:-

VISITS

Total number of Houses visited..... 752
Total number of visits..... 821

ANALYSIS

Birth Visits..... 32
0 - 1 " 202
1 - 2 " 127
2 - 5 " 117
Ante Natal Visits..... 34
Post Natal " 24
Infectious Disease Visits..... 5
Child Life Protection " 1

MATERNAL DEATHS There were no maternal deaths during the year.

PREMATURE BIRTHS "Flying Squad" for [illegible] is available at Municipal Hospital, Cuckfield. Arrangements are made with the Park Hall Maternity Hospital, Burgess Hill for premature babies, both at home, in ordinary conditions.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS No social workers in this area. Social and Children's Clinics, Houses of Help and Local Welfare supervise generally.